

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-08

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DRAFTED BY EB/OT/TA:JRCUNNINGHAM
APPROVED BY EB/ITP:SAHMAD
COMM:WPENYOYAR
USDA:RETHINGTON
EA/J:HCOCHRAN
LABOR:HFIEKOWSKY (INFO)
STR:DCOOPER (INFO)
EB/TA:MSOUTHWICK

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R 152332Z JUL 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

UNCLAS STATE 179587

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: JA, ETRD

SUBJECT: STRAUSS-USHIBA FOLLOWUP FOREST PRODUCTS

1. THE FOLLOWING DRAFT PROPOSAL WAS HANDED TO THE JAPANESE DELEGATION DURING THE FINAL DISCUSSION HELD IN PORTLAND JUNE 29. THE DRAFT WAS PREPARED BY PNRC WITH SOME MODIFICATIONS SUGGESTED BY USG.

2. THE US SIDE INDICATED A WILLINGNESS TO CONSIDER MODIFYING THE PROPOSAL TO MEET JAPANESE INTERESTS.

3. MATSUTANI OF MOC SAID HE PERSONALLY FAVORS ESTABLISHMENT OF A COMMISSION BUT HAD NO MANDATE FROM HIS
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GOVERNMENT TO CONCLUDE SUCH AN AGREEMENT SO COULD ONLY TAKE THE PROPOSAL TO JAPAN FOR STUDY.

4. DRAFT PROPOSAL OF JUNE 27, 1978
JOINT HOUSING COMMISSION - JAPAN AND THE UNITED STATES

OBJECTIVES:

1. PROMOTE PLATFORM FRAME HOUSING IN JAPAN AND MIXED USE OF DIMENSION LUMBER IN TRADITIONAL HOUSES.
2. ACTIVELY PROMOTE THE INTRODUCTION OF BOTH TWO AND THREE STORY TOWNHOUSES INTO THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT PROGRAM FOR HOUSING.
3. ACTIVELY SUPPORT THE INTRODUCTION OF THE LATEST U.S. TECHNOLOGY FOR BOTH HOUSING AND OTHER WOODEN COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS, INCLUDING PRE-CUT HOUSING COMPONENTS.
4. IDENTIFY PRODUCTS SUITABLE FOR USE IN PLATFORM FRAME CONSTRUCTION WHICH THE U.S. COULD SUPPLY TO JAPAN'S CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY.
5. ESTABLISH SPECIFIC WORKING GROUPS ON: HOUSING COMPONENTS, COMMERCIAL STRUCTURES, PUBLIC HOUSING PROGRAMS, FINANCING OF HOUSING COMPONENTS TRADE.

PROPOSED FORMAT OF ORGANIZATION:

THE JOINT HOUSING COMMISSION WILL BE SPONSORED ON THE U.S. SIDE BY THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST REGIONAL COMMISSION WORKING THROUGH ITS OFFICE IN TOKYO AND WITH THE SUPPORT OF THE U.S. GOVERNMENT AND ACTIVE PARTICIPATION OF THE U.S. EMBASSY.

THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST REGIONAL COMMISSION WILL
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DESIGNATE SUITABLE REPRESENTATION FOR THE SPECIFIC WORKING GROUPS AND FOR CO-CHAIRMAN FROM THE AMERICAN SIDE. U.S. GOVERNMENT OBSERVERS WILL JOIN IN THE ACTIVITIES OF THE HOUSING COMMISSION.

PROPOSED MEETING FORMAT:

THERE WILL BE TWO MEETINGS OF FULL COMMISSION, ONE IN JAPAN AND ONE IN THE UNITED STATES, EVERY YEAR. THEY WILL ALTERNATE AND THE AGENDA WILL BE NEGOTIATED, BASED ON CURRENT NEEDS TO ACCOMPLISH THE SPECIFIED OBJECTIVES. THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMISSION SESSIONS WILL BE THE DESIGNATED HOST COUNTRY COCHAIRMAN.

PROPOSED JOINT COMMISSION CHARTER:

THE COMMISSION WILL BE CHARTERED AND RECOGNIZED BY BOTH GOVERNMENTS, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE EXTREME IMPORTANCE OF BOTH SIDES TO DEVELOP AND EXPAND THE TRADE IN WOOD PRODUCTS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES.
CHRISTOPHER

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